

IN RE THE APPLICATION OF

Examiner: Raymond J. Bayerl

Art Unit No: 2173

Customer No. 23644

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Name of person signing Minnie Wilson
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Honorable Director of Patents and Trademarks
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This Brief is in support of Applicant's appeal from the Examiner's Final Rejection dated February 11, 2005 finally rejecting Claims 15-20. No claim has been allowed.

This Brief is being submitted in triplicate with the \$500 brief fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. 41.20.

This application has been assigned to International Computers Limited (which has changed its name to Fujitsu Services Limited), London, England.

There are none.

(iii) STATUS OF CLAIMS

Claims 15-20, the only claims remaining in this application, are appealed. Claims 1-14, which were considered during previous prosecution of the application, have been cancelled. Claims 15-20 as amended are set forth in the Claims Appendix.

(iv) STATUS OF AMENDMENTS

No amendment has been filed following the February 11, 2005 final office action of record, but responsive arguments were filed March 21, 2005 and entered. The rejections were continued.

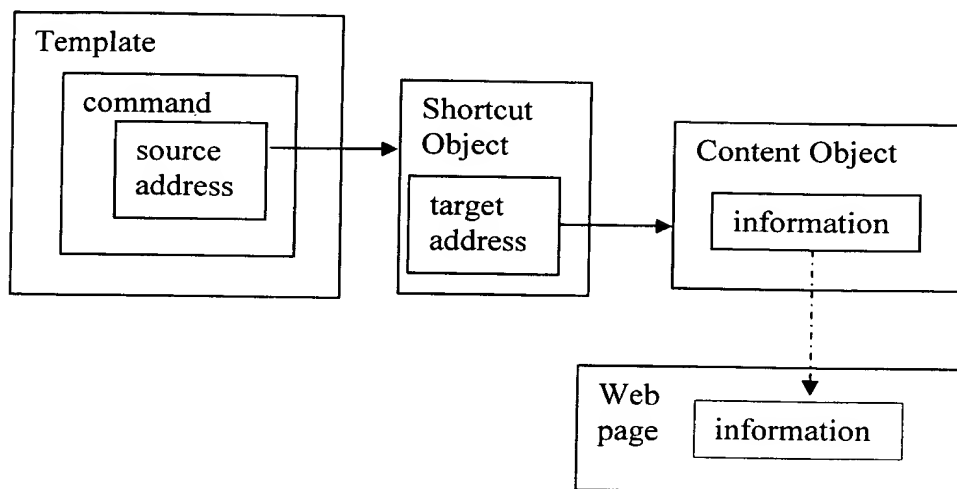
(v) SUMMARY OF THE CLAIMED SUBJECT MATTER

The present invention as claimed in Claims 15, 17 and 19 is concerned with a computerized method, computer system, or computer program product for generating a webpage. The invention stores content objects containing information for inclusion in the webpage, and shortcut objects each of which contains a target address referencing one of the content objects. A template includes a plurality of commands for inserting content into the webpage, each command including a source address referencing one of the objects. A command is executed by accessing the object referenced by the source address within the command. If the object referenced by the source address is a content object, the invention inserts information from the content object into the webpage. Alternatively, if the object referenced by the source address is a shortcut object, the invention accesses the content object referenced by the target address in the shortcut object, and then inserts information from the content object into the webpage.

In other words, the invention involves:

- a template including a plurality of commands
- each command in the template includes a source address referencing an object, which may be a content object or a shortcut object
- each shortcut object contains a target address referencing one of the content objects,
- each content object contains information for inclusion in the webpage
- the information is inserted from the content object into the webpage.

This can be illustrated diagrammatically as follows:



The shortcut objects provide a novel capability for referring indirectly to content objects in a template. As described in the disclosure, this capability can be used in a number of different ways to facilitate the construction and maintenance of complex websites.

Dependent claims 16, 18, and 20 are concerned with a computerized method, computer system, or computer program product in which property values are assigned to content objects and shortcut objects. The property values of a shortcut object override corresponding property values of the content object referenced by the shortcut object. In this way, a content object will appear to have different properties according to whether it is accessed directly, or through a shortcut object.

(vi) GROUNDS OF REJECTION TO BE REVIEWED ON APPEAL

The Examiner has rejected Claims 15-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103 as being obvious over Angiulo et al (U.S. 56,275,829) in view of Fleskes (U.S. 6,529,910). As will be seen in the following argument, the invention is clearly patentably distinguished from these references.

(viii) ARGUMENT

It is respectfully submitted that the invention as defined in the present claims is clearly distinguished from the Angiulo et al and Fleskes references, whether considered individually or in combination.

Angiulo describes a method for automatically introducing a thumbnail image into a webpage, to represent an original full-size image. Specifically, as can be seen from figures 11A-C, the method generates the HTML code:

```
<A HREF="HTTP://WWW.MSN.COM/IMAGES/SAILBOAT.GIF">  
    <IMG SRC="LITTLESAILBOAT.GIF" ALIGN=LEFT>  
    SAILING IS RELAXING  
</A>
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where HTTP://WWW.MSN.COM/IMAGES/SAILBOAT.GIF is a reference to the full-size image file and LITTLESAILBOAT.GIF is a reference to the thumbnail image file. This is a conventional <A> ... hyperlink structure, with an embedded tag referencing the thumbnail image. Thus, when the web page is viewed in a web browser, a hyperlink will be displayed within the web page, this hyperlink being illustrated by the thumbnail image in place of the usual text. Clicking on this hyperlink will cause the full-size image to be displayed(see column 11, lines 36-49).

Fleskes describes a method of automatically generating web pages. The program maintains configuration and content data and a series of web pages that act as templates (Abstract). A user can create custom web pages for an organization by inputting data about the organization into the organization's website (column 8, lines 39-60). The system then generates new web pages for the organization, based on the user input data (column 8, lines 65-66).

It is respectfully submitted that there is no suggestion in either Angiulo or Fleskes, individually or in combination, of the method as claimed in claim 15. It is agreed that Fleskes describes the use of templates, but little detail is given of what these templates consist of, other than they are web pages (see Abstract). A web page generally consists of a series of HTML tags, such as for example the tag mentioned in Angiulo, and such a tag could be regarded as a kind of command, containing a source address LITTLESAILBOAT.GIF which references an object, namely the actual image (GIF) file. However, there is absolutely no suggestion in either Angiulo or Fleskes that this referenced object (i.e. the image file) could be a shortcut object, containing a target address pointing to a content object.

In other words, there is absolutely no suggestion in either Angiulo or Fleskes of a method as claimed in claim 15, wherein a source address in a template command references a shortcut object, and a target address in the shortcut object references a content object.

On page 2 of the final Office Action, the examiner stated:

"The examiner notes that the prior art has the ability of linking a thumbnail to the original image".

It is respectfully pointed out that in Angiulo the thumbnail and the original image are "linked" solely by the fact HTML code (figure 11C) contains references to both the thumbnail image file and the full-size image file. However, the claims do not talk about "linking". The claims require that a template command includes a source address referencing a shortcut object, and that this shortcut object in turn contains a target address referencing a content object. There is clearly no suggestion of any such referencing in Angiulo. Specifically, there is no suggestion that the thumbnail image file LITTLESAILBOAT.GIF contains any target address referencing the original image file SAILBOAT.GIF.

In the Advisory Action dated April 4, 2005 the examiner stated:

"The reference Angiulo, in showing that content may be linked directly or via a thumbnail link (e.g. a shortcut) continues to suggest applicant's claimed invention. Please note that the small sailboat object has a shortcut that indirectly references the main sailboat image object ..."

It is clearly not correct to say that "the small sailboat object has a shortcut". There is no suggestion in Angiulo that the image file LITTLESAILBOAT.GIF contains any reference to the main sailboat image. Indeed, it is probably not possible to contain a reference to an object within a .GIF file. In fact, the reference to the main sailboat image object SAILBOAT.GIF is contained in the HTML code shown in figure 11C. The small image LITTLESAILBOAT.GIF does not contain any link; it is merely used to provide a thumbnail image to illustrate the link when the webpage is displayed.

Independent claims 17 and 19 are similar in scope to claim 15, and the above arguments apply equally to these claims.

Regarding dependent claims 16, 18, and 20, it is agreed that Angiulo allows properties, such as a beveled edge effect, to be applied to the displayed thumbnail image. However, it is respectfully submitted that there is no suggestion of the properties of one object overriding any corresponding properties of other objects as required by these claims. In particular, there is no suggestion that the properties applied to the thumbnail image override any properties of the full-size image.

In the Advisory Action dated April 4, 2005 the examiner stated:

"Then, when the image is returned with a beveled edge in Angiulo, a property is overridden in the shortcut access"

It is respectfully submitted that there is nothing in Angiulo to suggest that the beveled edge property to the thumbnail image overrides any properties. The beveled edge is simply a property of the thumbnail. Moreover, this property does not override any properties of another object, as required by claims 16, 18 and 20.

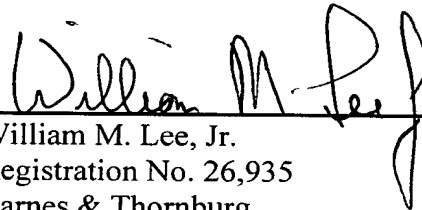
CONCLUSION

The rejection of the claims under 35 U.S.C. §103 has been demonstrated above to be without foundation and clearly in error. The Examiner's rejections should therefore be reversed.

The Brief filing fee of \$500.00 is tendered herewith. Any overpayment may be credited or underpayment deducted from Deposit Account No 12-0913.

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Respectfully Submitted

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "William M. Lee, Jr.", is written over a horizontal line.

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CLAIMS APPENDIX

15. A computerized method for generating a webpage, the method comprising:
- (a) storing a plurality of objects, including content objects and shortcut objects, wherein said content objects contain information for inclusion in the webpage and wherein each of said shortcut objects contains a target address referencing one of the content objects,
 - (b) providing a template including a plurality of commands for inserting content into the webpage, each command including a source address referencing one of said objects,
 - (c) parsing the template to identify the commands,
 - (d) executing each command by accessing the object referenced by the source address within the command,
 - (e) if the object referenced by the source address is a content object, inserting information from the content object into the webpage, and
 - (f) if the object referenced by the source address is a shortcut object, accessing the content object referenced by the target address in the shortcut object, and then inserting information from the content object into the webpage.
16. A method according to claim 15, further including:
- (a) assigning property values to said content objects and shortcut objects, and
 - (b) causing the property values of a shortcut object to override corresponding property values of the content object referenced by the shortcut object.

17. A web server computer system comprising:

- (a) means for storing a plurality of objects including content objects and shortcut objects, wherein said content objects contain information for inclusion in a webpage and wherein each of said shortcut objects contains a target address referencing one of the content objects,
- (b) means for storing a template including a plurality of commands for inserting content into the webpage, each command including a source address referencing one of said objects, and
- (c) executing means for executing each command by accessing the object referenced by the source address within the command,
- (d) wherein, if the object referenced by the source address is a content object, said executing means inserts information from the content object into the webpage, and
- (e) and wherein, if the object referenced by the source address is a shortcut object, said executing means accesses the content object referenced by the target address in the shortcut object, and then inserts information from the content object into the webpage.

18. A system according to claim 17, further including:

- (a) means for assigning property values to said content objects and shortcut objects, and
- (b) means for causing the property values of a shortcut object to override corresponding property values of the content object referenced by the shortcut object.

19. A computer program product comprising a data carrier including a computer program for performing a method for generating a webpage, the method comprising:

- (a) storing a plurality of objects, including content objects and shortcut objects, wherein said content objects contain information for inclusion in the webpage and wherein each of said shortcut objects contains a target address referencing one of the content objects,
- (b) accessing a template including a plurality of commands for inserting content into the webpage, each command including a source address referencing one of said objects,
- (c) parsing the template to identify the commands,
- (d) executing each command by accessing the object referenced by the source address within the command,
- (e) if the object referenced by the source address is a content object, inserting information from the content object into the webpage, and
- (f) if the object referenced by the source address is a shortcut object, accessing the content object referenced by the target address in the shortcut object, and then inserting information from the content object into the webpage.

20. A computer program product according to claim 19, wherein said method further includes:

- (a) assigning property values to said content objects and shortcut objects, and
- (b) causing the property values of a shortcut object to override corresponding property values of the content object referenced by the shortcut object.